

## HOUSE RESOLUTION 73

By Overbey

A RESOLUTION to recognize and commend Clara Peals of Blount County.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated their professional careers and personal excellence to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Clara Peals is one such estimable person who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, a highly respected member of her community, Ms. Peals has evinced a life-long commitment to the citizens of Blount County, where her generosity and selflessness are legendary; and

WHEREAS, a native of Tellico Plains in Monroe County, Clara Peals graduated from Knoxville Business College and, equipped with a sense for business, moved to Blount County as a young woman; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Peals entered the real estate business at a time when women realtors were a rarity and remained in the business for fifty years; though now retired, she still maintains her office and real estate license; and

WHEREAS, truly a public-spirited citizen of the highest order, Clara Peals has rendered astute and proficient service to her fellow citizens in many capacities; she is on the Sam Houston Historic Schoolhouse Guild, volunteers with the Community Action Agency, helps Parks and Recreation with Special Olympics, contributes to the Empty Pantry Fund, and is a member of the Executive Committee of the Republican Women; and

WHEREAS, she is also an invaluable member of the Blount County Board of Realtors, the Chamber of Commerce, Business and Professional Women, Woodmen of the World, and is a member of the board at Everett Senior Center; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Peals was appointed by Governor Lamar Alexander to the Tennessee Real Estate Commission, and she served with great distinction for ten years; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to accolades, Clara Peals was recently honored by the Blount County Board of Realtors with the Realtor of the Year Life Award, the pavilion at the Townsend Visitors Center bears her name, and she was also the recipient of a fifty-year pin from the Woodmen of the World; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Peals's latest venture is the Back Hills Cafe, and as a co-owner of the establishment she entertains her dinner guests with nationally-known singers and musicians every weekend; and

WHEREAS, a former member of the Gingham Gang Band, Clara Peals plays the spoons and loves to dance; keeping active has kept her in excellent health, she claims, and this community volunteer shows no sign of slowing down; and

WHEREAS, Clara Peals's outstanding success as a public servant and civic leader is directly attributable to her reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and her uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, an extremely giving person, Ms. Peals often reaches out with compassion to people who life has treated unkindly, and she epitomizes the ideal of the consummate professional, dedicated public servant, and reliable friend and neighbor; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Clara Peals is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we recognize and commend Ms. Clara Peals for her honorable and astute service to the good people of Blount County through her ongoing commitment to community activism, even as we salute her unswerving commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.